

NOTES AND NEWS.

IT IS ESTIMATED that forty per cent. of honey dew, as it occurs upon the leaves of trees, consists of the rare sugar, melezitose (Comp. rend. 117: 127).

ARTEMISIA STELLERIANA Bess. occurs at Little Compton, and Newport, R. I. In this connection an article in the March number of Journal of Botany should be read.—BAILEY.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE will meet this year in Brooklyn, August 16th to 22d. Announcements may be obtained from the local secretary, Prof. Geo. W. Plympton.

DURING THE coming summer Professor John Macoun intends to collect in the prairie region of Canada. These constant explorations are bringing to the Government Herbarium a fine representation of our northern flora.

DR. G. A. WEISS, Professor in the University of Prag, and director of the School of Vegetable Physiology, died March 17, aged 57 years. Dr. Hans Molisch has been called to fill the position made vacant by the death of Dr. Weiss.

TEACHERS OF botany may be interested to know that *Negundo aceroides* shows a beautiful set of gradations through scales to true leaves. In the figure in Gray's Genera, vol. ii, their transition is only partially shown.—BAILEY.

MR. MERRITT FERNALD expects to publish shortly an appendix to his Name Catalogue, containing a record of work during the last two years. Nearly a hundred flowering plants have been added to the list, many of them of very great interest.

HEFT THREE of the *Berichte der deutschen bot. Gesellschaft* contains the following papers: R. Lauterborn, Concerning the locomotory movements of diatoms, with reference to O. Müller's papers on the same question (*Berichte*, 11: 571 and 7: 169); P. Taubert, On the occurrence of the genus *Physostigma* in Eastern Africa, and on some of its morphological peculiarities; P. Magnus, On some parasitic fungi of the Mediterranean territory.—BAY.

THE BOTANICAL DEPARTMENT at Brown University partakes of the general "boom" of the institution. Over 120 students have taken the course this year. The old laboratory, now too small for general classes, is newly fitted up for histological work. The larger classes have to hear lectures where they can. Much valuable apparatus has been added, and excellent work is being done. Mr. Osterhaut, besides being assistant here, acts in that capacity at Woods Holl, in summer, where he always sent a number of students.—BAILEY.

MR. S. E. CASSINO, the Boston publisher, having received requests from many persons to issue a directory of naturalists arranged by specialties or departments of study, and from others who desire a

geographical arrangement, has decided to publish such a directory of the United States and Canada, provided a sufficient number of subscriptions are received to warrant the undertaking. The names will occur in triplicate, alphabetically, geographically and by departments of study. If possible, the work will be issued in December of this year or early in January, 1895.

UNDER THE AUSPICES of the Belgian government, an international congress of scientists who are interested in the progress of applied chemistry will be held at Brussels from August 4th to 12th. There will be a section of agricultural chemistry which will consider nine important questions, some of which are most closely related to vegetable physiology. There will also be a section of biological chemistry which will have under consideration some questions concerning yeast. Professors H. van Laer and J. Vuylsteke are at the head of this section. Steps will be taken to publish a Review of biological chemistry in several languages. Papers may be read by the author or sent to the secretary, Prof. H. van Laer, 15 rue de Hollande, Brussels.—*BAV.*

THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORY at Woods Holl, Mass., will be open for its seventh season from June 1 to August 30, 1894. The officers of instruction in Botany are W. A. Setchell, Instructor in Botany, Yale University, and W. J. V. Osterhout, Instructor in Botany, Brown University. The laboratory for teachers and students of Botany will be open from July 11th to August 18th. The laboratory work will be restricted to the study of the structure and development of types of the various orders of the cryptogamous plants, especial attention being given to the study of the various species of marine algæ, which occur so abundantly in the waters about Woods Holl. Applications should be addressed to William A. Setchell, 2 Hill-house avenue, New Haven, Conn.

THE ANIMAL FOOD of *Utricularia vulgaris* has been carefully examined for plants growing in the Gullane ponds near Aberlady, Scotland, by Mr. Thomas Scott, of the Fishery Board for Scotland, assisted by his son (*Annals of Scottish Nat. Hist.* —: 105-112. 1894). No utricles were included less than one twelfth inch in greatest diameter. Of the first lot of 500 utricles taken from the plants at random eighty-one contained no organic matter, thirty-five contained organic matter too much decomposed to identify, and 384 contained recognizable organisms. The record is given in detail, but only the summary can be noted. In the 384 utricles were 1415 Cypris (mostly of two species), 535 Cyclops (nearly 90 per cent. being males), and seventy-one other minute animals, or an average of over five organisms to each utricle. After some weeks another lot of 300 utricles were examined with closely similar results. Five pieces of stem of *Utricularia* of an average length of six and one half inches were found to bear 1531 utricles, of which 1371 contained organic matter. According to the above average this would give over 7,000 organisms captured by these five short stems. A tow-net examination of the pond water showed no unusual abundance of minute animal life. Such plants must be powerful enemies to the active pond life. Several related questions are also considered by the authors, such as the reasons for a different proportion between the kinds of organisms inside and outside of the utricles.